

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7788

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TAIPEI 03792

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT

SUBJECT: PREMIER SUN'S ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. BEGIN SUMMARY. IN HIS FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN ON JUNE 13, PREMIER SUN YUN-SUAN EMPHASIZED HIS ADMINISTRATION'S DEDICATION TO "CONTINUITY AND COHERENCE." POLICIES OUTLINED WERE TOTALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS ESTABLISHED BY PREDECESSOR CHIANG CHING-KUO. THE TONE OF SUN'S REMARKS WAS CHARACTERIZED BY THE CHINA NEWS, WHICH EDITORIALIZED: SOMETIMES THE BETTER PART OF WISDOM IS TO AVOID DRASTIC CHANGE." SUN WILL SEEK TO AUGMENT NATIONAL MILITARY AND ECONOMIC STRENGTH, REMAIN FIRMLY IN THE "DEMOCRATIC CAMP," ACHIEVE GROWTH WITH STABILITY, RAISE THE STANDARD OF LIVING AND KEEP BEFORE PUBLIC OFFICIALS THE PERSONAL STANDARDS OF SERVICE, RESPONSIBILITY AND EFFICIENCY.

EVEN THE CONCRETE PROPOSALS IN SUN'S FIRST REPORT (CHARACTERIZED AS LESS VIGOROUS THAN CCK'S USUAL PRODUCT) WERE CAUTIOUS. THESE INCLUDED STRENGTHENING
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AND MODERNIZING THE MILITARY, PROVIDING THE BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC WEAPONS PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY-INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES AND CULTIVATING OVERSEAS CHINESE PRO-ROC SENTIMENTS. THE SPEECH WAS SET IN A FRAMEWORK OF WARNING TO THE U.S. AGAINST APPEASEMENT BALANCED BY GRUDGING ADMISSION THAT THE ROAD AHEAD IS "RUGGED AND TORTUOUS."

SUN NOTED "WE MUST WELD THE WILLS OF ALL OUR PEOPLE INTO ONE AND FORGE THEIR STRENGTH INTO A SINGLE COHESIVE WHOLE, THUS OPENING THE WAY FOR THE RESOLUTION OF OUR DIFFICULTIES AND COMING INTO VIEW OF THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL." END SUMMARY.

1. PREMIER SUN NOTED OPTIMISTICALLY THAT "PROGRESS HAS NO LIMIT" AND "SUCCESS LIES IN OUR OWN HANDS," BUT HE CAUTIONED "THE PRESENT WORLD SITUATION IS TUMULTUOUS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COUNTERCURRENT OF APPEASEMENT IS RUNNING HIGH. CONSEQUENTLY, JUSTICE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS ARE NOT PREVAILING AND THERE ARE NO CLEAR DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN FRIEND AND FOE OR RIGHT AND WRONG." HE STRESSED THE ROC'S ANTI-COMMUNIST STANCE (REPEATING GROC TOTAL REJECTION OF COMPROMISE OR NEGOTIATION) AND AFFIRMED "THE MAINTENANCE OF SINO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP ACCORDS WITH OUR NATIONAL INTEREST AND IS CLOSELY RELATED TO THE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF ASIA AND EVEN THE WORLD."

2. SUN EMPHASIZED INCREASING NATIONAL STRENGTH AS OUTLINED IN PRESIDENT CHIANG'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS THROUGH IMPLEMENTING INTEGRATED POLICIES OF DEVELOPING MILITARY "ELITE FORCES" (INCLUDING INCREASING DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF IMPORTANT WEAPONS AND MILITARY GOODS) AND ECONOMIC GROWTH WITH STABILITY; (2) IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF LIVING BY MODERNIZATION AND GROWTH; (3) EXPANDING
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CONSTITUTIONAL RULE OF CARRYING OUT LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT PERFECTING ELECTIONS AND "ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND CAPABILITIES AS THEY PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL AFFAIRS"; (4) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HONEST AND COMPETENT GOVERNMENT, WARNING THAT EXCELLENCE WILL BE REWARDED AND INEPTITUDE PUNISHED. (NOTE: WE BELIEVE PHRASE "ELITE FORCES" REFERS TO ONGOING EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE MILITARY HARDWARE AND REDUCE ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL, WHO WOULD THEN BE SUPPORTED BY A WELL-TRAINED READY RESERVE. EMBASSY AND DAO WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SEPTEL.)

3. SUN URGED WIDENING CONTACTS WITH THE 23 MILLION OVERSEAS CHINESE BY WELCOMING THEIR INVESTMENT AND URGING THEIR CHILDREN TO OBTAIN SCHOOLING IN THE ROC.

4. IN THE MILITARY SPHERE SUN PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED ARMAMENTS AND INCREASING THE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF IMPORTANT WEAPONS AND MILITARY GOODS. HE PROMISED SUFFICIENT FUNDS AND RESEARCH RESOURCES FOR CONCURRENT DEVELOPMENT OF THESE AND TECHNOLOGY-INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE IN ORDER TO REINFORCE

THE "POTENTIAL STRENGTH OF THE NATION." END
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT: THE PRINCIPLE SIGNIFICANCE
OF SUN'S REPORT WAS ITS REAFFIRMATION OF CCK'S POLICIES.
ITS TONE SUGGESTED A PRESUMED CONFIDENCE BASED ON
BELIEF IN GROC MORAL CERTAINTY IN THE FACE OF COMING
ADVERSITY. IN THE INTERPELLATIONS WHICH FOLLOWED
SUN'S ORAL PRESENTATION MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN
NEITHER RAISED NOR RECEIVED ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT GOVERN-
MENT POLICIES OR ACTIONS SHOULD DIFFER FROM THOSE
UNDER CCK. IT IS CLEAR THAT SUN'S POLICY MIRRORS CCK'S

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 TAIPEI 03792

WILL. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF CRITICISM AGAINST HIS
PROXY WILL BE ANY MORE SPIRITED THAN WHEN CCK FACED
THIS SAME GROUP.

APART FROM IMPRECISE REFERENCES TO FUTURE HARSHIPS
SUN'S REPORT REVEALS NO CHANGES IN THE KMT POSITION.
WE CAN DRAW FROM IT NO REPEAT NO INFERENCE THAT THE
GROC IS YET PREPARED TO ADDRESS POST-NORALIZATION
ISSUES IN ANY FORM OTHER THAN A RESTATEMENT OF ITS
TRADITIONAL POSITION. CONCESSIONS TO THE NEED TO
IMPROVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ELECTION PROCEDURES AND THE
QUALITY OF CIVIL SERVANTS SUGGEST A WILLINGNESS TO
DEFUSE DOMESTIC POLITICAL TENSIONS, HOWEVER THE
ABILITY TO ADAPT DOES NOT EXTEND TO THE AREA OF FOREIGN
POLICY. END CONFIDENTIAL. UNGER

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